

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 21 are independent. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claim 21. Applicants also acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 3-6, 10-14 and 16-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, claims 1, 11 and 19-21 have been amended only for the purpose of clarification. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. The specification has also been amended to correct a typographic oversight.

II. Objection

The specification and claims have been objected to because of informalities. In response, Applicants have amended the specification and claims 1, 11 and 19-21, and believe these amendments are fully responsive to the Examiner's concerns.

III. The Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that Matsukawa et al. teaches a parameter correction circuit including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1 except that the circuits/components are included in a semiconductor circuit. The Examiner then applied the Applicant Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA"), and asserted that the AAPA teaches the missing feature of Matsukawa et al. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to modify

Matsukawa et al. based on the teachings of the AAPA to arrive the claimed invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* basis to deny patentability to the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. §103 for lack of the requisite factual basis. To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974).

The applied combination of Matsukawa et al. and the AAPA does not teach a parameter correction circuit including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, the references do not teach, among other things, “a variable parameter component” wherein “the adjusting circuit adjusts the parameter value of the variable parameter component such that the voltage of the variable parameter component reaches the voltage of the reference parameter component,” recited in independent claim 1. The present invention is configured for calibrating a value of a variable parameter component by comparing the value of the variable parameter component (e.g., a resistance) with a reference parameter (e.g., a resistance) to adjust the value of the variable parameter component, which changes due to production deviations, to a desired value. Accordingly, the value of the parameter component is variable in the present invention.

In contrast, Matsukawa et al. teaches comparing a resistance (element 2, such as a thermistor) whose value changes according to a temperature, with a reference resistance (reference resistance 3) whose value does not change according to a temperature, to detect a temperature (see Fig. 2, pages 3, 4 and 8-12, cited by the Examiner). It is apparent that Matsukawa’s element 2 whose resistance value changes according to a temperature is different from the claimed variable parameter component. Matsukawa et al. does not teach adjusting the resistance value of element 2 such that the voltage of element 2 reaches the voltage of the

reference resistance 3, as opposed to the claimed invention. The AAPA does not cure the above deficiency of Matsukawa et al.

Accordingly, the teachings of Matsukawa et al. and the AAPA, either individually or in combination, do not teach a parameter correction circuit including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2, 7-9 and 15 are also patentably distinguishable over Matsukawa et al. and the AAPA at least because these claims respectively include all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. In the instant case, the pending rejection has not established *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention as recited in claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 15. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103, and favorable consideration thereof.

IV. Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

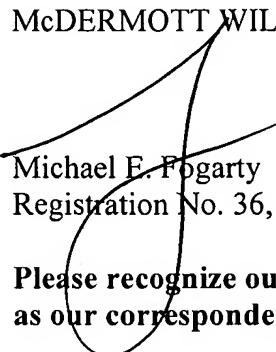
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Michael F. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:TT
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: June 28, 2006

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